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From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Monday, August 18, 2014 12:52 PM
To: Dellinger, Philip
Subject: FW: Daily News Digest, Monday, Aug. 18
Attachments: Daily News Digest 08182014.pdf

Did you see the Goliad County article?

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From: Hubbard, Joseph
Sent: Monday, August 18, 2014 9:48 AM
Subject: Daily News Digest, Monday, Aug. 18

1 – Head-On Train Crash in Arkansas Kills 2, Oil and Gas Journal, 8/14/2014

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/arkansas-train-crash-kills-2-1408300396>

Two Union Pacific UNP +1.67% Corp. freight trains carrying toxic chemicals collided head-on early Sunday in northeast Arkansas, killing two train crew members and injuring two others, authorities said. No toxic material is believed to have leaked as a result of the crash or a subsequent fire that burned for hours. The collision, which occurred in Hoxie about 90 miles northwest of Memphis, sparked a fire involving a train engine and a railroad car hauling alcohol, said a spokesman for the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management.

2 - Norman meeting on fracking draws hundreds, OK News 8/14/14

<http://newsok.com/norman-meeting-on-fracking-draws-hundreds/article/5217807>

Hundreds of people filled a meeting room at the Norman Public Library this week to discuss hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, and whether Norman and other cities have the right to regulate the process. The event was sponsored by the Scholars Strategy Network and environmental groups Clean Energy Future Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Chapter of the Sierra Club and Our Earth. Mayor Cindy Rosenthal and several city council members attended, but the event was not an official city meeting.

3 – On Climate Rules, Regulators Look Beyond Litigation, Texas Tribune, 8/15/14

<http://www.texastribune.org/2014/08/15/epa-climate-rules-texas-look-beyond-litigation/>

Texas should not bank on legal action to free itself from the Obama administration's proposal to tackle climate change, two state regulators said Friday. Referring to a string of recent defeats in challenges to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules, Texas Railroad Commissioner Barry Smitherman said regulators should think beyond litigation when planning how to respond to the federal proposal, which would require states to meet individual carbon targets.

4 – Wharton County town blames farmers for dry wells, Houston Chron, 8/15/2014

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/science-environment/article/Wharton-County-town-blames-farmers-for-dry-wells-5691935.php#/0>

For two months this year, water seemed abundant here in Wharton County, with vast rice fields flooded at 3 to 4 inches deep. But the still-life can be deceptive.

5 – Carcinogen present in well water in south Goliad County, Victoria Advocate, 8/15/14

http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2014/aug/15/arsenic_ss_081414_246139/?counties

A known carcinogen is naturally occurring in south Goliad County drinking water, according to a report recently released by the county's groundwater district. Presence of the colorless, odorless element is evidence of why private well owners should test their water for heavy metals and other chemicals, groundwater district officials say.

6 – Texas mulls carbon options amid legal momentum for EPA, EE News, 8/18/14

<http://www.eenews.net/energywire/2014/08/18/stories/1060004576>

Barry Smitherman, a Texas energy regulator for about a decade, didn't disagree with a parade of public speakers Friday who questioned the legality of U.S. EPA's plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions at existing power plants.

But he said Texas should consider other ways to preserve diversity in the state's fuel mix besides just litigation, noting "we have not fared particularly well" in recent court cases.

7 – 20 Texas firefighters exposed to hazardous chemicals, KSAT, 8/18/2014

<http://www.ksat.com/content/pns/ksat/news/2014/08/18/20-texas-firefighters-exposed-to-hazardous-chemicals.html>

Fort Worth fire authorities say 20 firefighters were exposed to hazardous chemicals at a commercial structure blaze.

Battalion Chief Richard Harrison tells the Fort Worth Star-Telegram that none of the firefighters have experienced health complications following the Saturday night fire.

8 – Two San Juan co-owners request extension, Albq Journal, 8/18/14

<http://www.abqjournal.com/447650>

Two of nine co-owners of the coal-fired San Juan Generating Station – Tucson Electric Power Co. and Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems – have sent letters to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting a year extension on the deadline to install haze controls at the plant.

9 – EPA Blames Texas for Illinois Air Pollution, Heartland, 8/14/2014

<http://news.heartland.org/newspaper-article/2014/08/14/epa-blames-texas-illinois-air-pollution#.U-4xr60hQC4.twitter>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is blaming power plants in Texas for Illinois air pollution and is using the accusation to justify restrictions on Texas power plants. EPA claims its cross-state pollution rule, intended to protect communities in one state from pollution drifting from other states, justifies placing restrictions on Texas power plants EPA claims are polluting Granite City, Illinois.

10 – Banking on the boom: NM oil, gas industries see record production, continued growth, Law Cruces Sun-News 8/15/2014

http://www.lcsun-news.com/las_cruces-business/ci_26343998/banking-boom-nm-oil-gas-industries-see-record

Dotting the plains of southeastern New Mexico, pump jacks toil endlessly, drawing ever more crude from the earth and putting money in state coffers, driving a multi-million dollar industry that land management and energy officials don't see slowing anytime soon.

11 – Homeland Security to Begin Reforms

For Chemical Safety With Comment Notice, Statesman, 8/14/2014

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51595503&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f4r7a8q5&split=0

The Department of Homeland Security is considering a broad set of reforms to its program for high-risk chemical facilities, including changes to the program's list of covered chemicals, performance standards and "general regulatory approach," according to a notice set for publication in the Aug. 18 Federal Register.

12- (Opinion) Stick to the facts on fracking, Dallas Morning News, 8/15/2014

<http://letterstotheeditorblog.dallasnews.com/2014/08/stick-to-the-facts-on-fracking.html/>

Denton resident Annetta Ramsay calls for "better balance" in the discussion over hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. Unfortunately, I believe Ramsay opts for hype over facts. Ramsay offers anecdotes on pollution and "disruption" she's witnessed in her hometown, but fails to point out that some scientists conclude that fracking is generally safe.

13- David Vitter wants EPA to dump new "Waters of the U.S." wetlands regulations, Times Picayune, 8/15/2014

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2014/08/vitter_wants_epa_to_dump_new_w.html

U.S. Sen. David Vitter, R-La., demanded Friday that the Environmental Protection Agency drop its proposed "Waters of the United States" wetlands rule, which he said unconstitutionally expands the federal government's control over private property and would bring Louisiana's economic expansion to a "screeching halt".

14- EPA Unveils Test Methods For Fracking Study, Raising New Policy Doubts, Inside EPA, 8/13/2014

<http://insideepa.com/201408132479294/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-unveils-test-methods-for-fracking-study-raising-new-policy-doubts/menu-id-95.html>

EPA has unveiled new academic papers detailing novel water testing methods to detect contaminants linked to hydraulic fracturing as part of its pending study on whether the process adversely impacts drinking water, but advocates say the studies fail to resolve questions about the fate of the assessment and the agency's fracking policies.

15-New TxDOT web app helps drivers save money, reduce emissions, Houston News, 8/17/2014

http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/memorial/news/new-txdot-web-app-helps-drivers-save-money-reduce-emissions/article_5f4f03ba-a4fd-541c-9202-dc9bbe1fb7be.html

Keeping vehicles road-ready and saving money at the pump is now easier than ever thanks to a new smartphone Web app from the Texas Department of Transportation. Along with helpful hints for keeping vehicles operating efficiently, the "Roadcents" app also offers tips for reducing tailpipe emissions that contribute to air pollution.

16- Flaring incident under investigation at Tyler refinery, KTRE, 8/15/2014

<http://www.ktre.com/story/26292019/flaring-incident-under-control-at-tyler-refinery>

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is investigating after an incident at the Delek Refinery in Tyler on Thursday. The incident, is classified as an 'upset event' by the TCEQ, meaning it was not a planned event or part of the normal operations of the facility.